

U.S. Appl. No. 09/844,354
Reply to Final Office Action dated November 2, 2006

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PATENT
450100-4138.1

JAN 24 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-25 are pending. Claims 1, 11-13 and 21-25 are independent. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,585,838 to Lawler, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Lawler") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,790,198 to Roop, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Roop") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,727,159 to Kikinis (hereinafter, merely "Kikinis").

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"An information providing apparatus...

wherein said electronic program guide information is displayed according to media on which said data or at least one of said first information and said second information is provided." (Emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Lawler relates to a program time guide for an interactive viewing system which allows a user to control the time and channels for which program information is displayed. The user can navigate through the program time guide to identify and select desired programs. The program time guide displays information for various types and sources of programming by assigning each program source a channel number.

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Selecting a program on a particular channel causes the system to tune to an associated frequency to receive video signals, launch a computer executed application which generates displayed information, or to perform some other activity associated with that channel or program.

As understood by Applicants, Roop relates to transmission and utilization systems which transmit TV schedule data and associated network control messages provided by a computer as packets via the Video Blanking Interval lines in the TV signal from various television program providers. This data is acquired by regional data processing systems and forwarded by the regional data processing systems to subscriber units and used to construct an internal database. This internal database can be accessed by the subscriber unit to display a TV schedule for the channels that are received by the user's TV.

As understood by Applicants, Kikinis relates to a system in which relatively low-end computers, such as portable, battery-powered computers ordinarily incapable of Internet browsing functions may be used to browse the Internet. The enhanced computing ability for such portables is provided by an arrangement having a Proxy-Server with adequate computing power for all World Wide Web (WWW) browsing and downloading functions, and further capable of transposing downloaded files to alternative, low-information-density form suitable for rapid processing and display by connected portable and other low-end computers.

Applicants submit that Lawler, Roop and Kikinis taken either alone, or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above identified features of claim 1. Specifically there is no teaching or suggestion of an information providing apparatus wherein said electronic program guide information is displayed according to media on which said data or at least one of said first information and said second information is provided, as recited in independent claim 1.

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The Office Action concedes on page 4 that Lawler and Roop "do not discuss displaying the EPG on any other type media." The Office Action asserts that Kikinis discloses the above-identified features.

However, Kikinis merely discloses that when "one connects to the Proxy-Server the hand-held unit, through the HT-Lite Nano-Browser program, provides a signature which the Proxy-Server compares with logged signatures. An ID match when connecting a hand-held unit to the Proxy-Server with information about the hand-held unit... The Proxy-Server then uses this specific information to translate HTML and other files from the Internet to a form readily usable without extensive additional processing by the hand-held unit." Merely translating files to a format usable by a portable computer does not teach or suggest that electronic program guide information is displayed according to media on which said data or at least one of said first information and said second information is provided.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 11-13 and 21-25 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 11-13 and 21-25 are patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent on an independent claim discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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